

Clarkston Annexation Fact Sheet "3 Votes – One Clarkston"

What

- 3 distinct referenda that will:
 - Annex 2 separate areas into the city limits of Clarkston
 - Allow for a Freeport tax exemption for businesses in Clarkston
- What is Annexation?
 - The act of bringing areas currently under the jurisdiction of DeKalb County (also referred to as unincorporated DeKalb) into the jurisdiction of the City of Clarkston
 - This means service provision in terms of police protection, trash pick-up, road and sidewalk maintenance, and others, would move from DeKalb County's responsibility to the City of Clarkston's responsibility
 - Services such as fire/emergency medical, water and sewer, and others, would continue to be provided by DeKalb County through contractual agreements between the City of Clarkston and the County
- What is a Freeport tax exemption?
 - A tax exemption on various types of goods and merchandise that either:
 - Are in the process of being manufactured and are in various points of production
 - Are finished, ready-for-sale products that are being stored and destined for shipment outside of Georgia within 12 months
 - o Granting this exemption will allow businesses within the City of Clarkston the same benefit available to those in unincorporated DeKalb, which in turn will make Clarkston more attractive to warehousing/goods distribution-type businesses

Where

- These referenda will take place in the City of Clarkston and the 2 areas proposed for annexation into the City
 - The referendum you get to vote on will be determined by your registered voting address
 - See the attached maps indicating the areas being considered for annexation



Who

- These referenda affect everyone in Clarkston. However, no one is eligible to vote on all 3 referenda:
 - Annexation Area 1 (see map): Only those who have registered voting addresses inside of Area 1 are eligible to vote on the referendum for annexation of this area
 - Annexation Area 2 (see map): Only those who have registered voting addresses in side of Area 2 are eligible to vote on the referendum for annexation of this area
 - Freeport Exemption: Only those who have registered voting addresses inside the <u>current</u> city limits of Clarkston are eligible to vote on the referendum to grant a Freeport Exemption
 - Those who are eligible to vote on the respective referenda for Area 1 and Area 2 are <u>not</u> eligible to vote on the Freeport Exemption Referendum, as those areas are not currently within the city limits of Clarkston

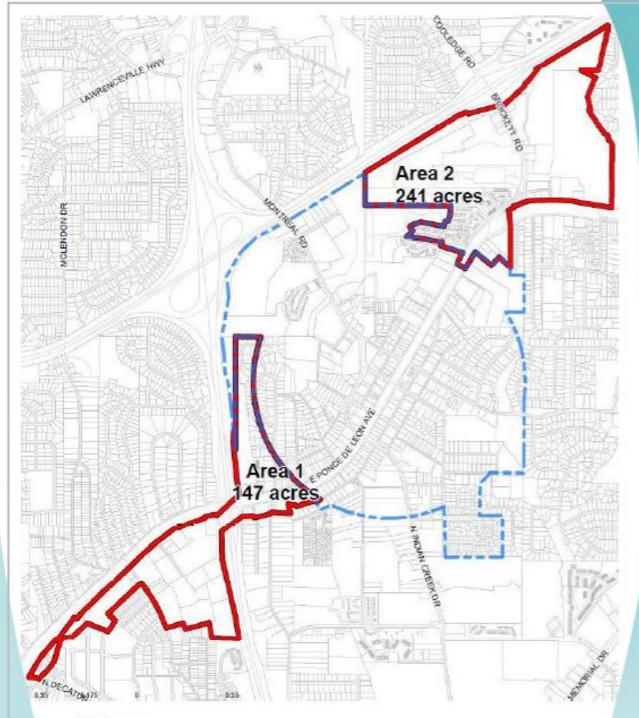
How

- Eligible voters for Annexation Areas 1 and 2 will receive a letter from the DeKalb County Board of Registration and Elections informing them of their eligibility and providing the following instructions:
 - Vote by Mail: Submit a separate application to request a ballot for your respective annexation referendum (the application will be enclosed with the letter mentioned above)
 - Early Voting: Go to the main Voter Registration Office (4380 Memorial Drive, Suite 300, Decatur 30032) and present the above-mentioned letter to the poll staff to indicate your eligibility to vote on your respective referendum. Polling staff will program your ballot card to include your respective referendum on your ballot inside the voting booth



This early voting site is the only one where this process is valid

- o Primary Election Day, May 20th. Go to your normal assigned voting place (refer to your voter registration card if unsure of where that is). Bring the above-mentioned letter and the polling staff will guide you through the process of how to vote on your respective referendum
- Eligible voters for the Freeport Tax Exemption referendum are those whose registered voting addresses are in the city limits of Clarkston. The referendum will be included on your ballot without any additional action required on your part, regardless of whether you vote by mail, participate in early voting, or vote on Primary Election Day.



When

- All 3 referenda will be on the May 20, 2014 General Primary ballot
- If successful, the annexed areas would officially become part of the City of Clarkston on January 1, 2015
- If successful, the Freeport tax exemption would go into effect in Clarkston on July 1, 2014